

Alameda Point RAB Meeting on August 4, 2011 Highlights and Analysis

RAB members present: George Humphreys (Community Vice Co-Chair), Richard Bangert, Carol Gottstein, M.D, Bert Morgan, Kurt Peterson, and Michael John Torrey.

Navy BEC Derek Robinson announced that the community tour of IR Sites on Saturday, July 16, lasting 2.5 hours, was well received. The RAB critiqued various aspects of the tour, to help ensure next year's tour benefits from the experience.

Remediation and other field work in progress:

- A Navy/EPA/University of Florida field research study is ongoing at Plume 4-1, immediately north of Building 360 near Alameda Point's east entrance. The research focuses on better characterizing the solvent contamination in groundwater prior to remedy selection and design. This research should improve not only the Navy's cleanup of OU-2B groundwater, but similar contamination elsewhere.
- Two areas of concern at IR Site 35 (EDC-5) (1) recreational area near Main Street north entrance and (2) location of former elevated water tanks) are undergoing pre-excavation sampling, site excavation, confirmation sampling, site restoration, and associated field activities.
- Performance groundwater monitoring is ongoing to assess the effectiveness of remediation at IR Site 6 (Building 41, Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Facility), IR Site 16 (Shipping Container Storage Area), in the southeast corner of Alameda Point, and IR Site 28 (Todd Shipyard), near the dog park along Oakland Inner Harbor.
- Radiological status surveys of selected buildings to rule out potential radiological residues are ongoing.
- A radiological characterization survey is nearing completion for surface and near-surface soil at IR Site 32 (Northwestern Ordinance Storage Area), which is immediately east of the IR Site 1 landfill, along Oakland Inner Harbor.
- The air sparge/vapor extraction system to treat groundwater contaminated with benzene and naphthalene at Alameda Point OU-5 and FISCA IR Site 2 is operating.
- Construction of six-phase heating dual cell array for pilot testing at IR Site 21 (Ship Fitting and Engine Repair, Building 162) is in progress, including installation of power lines, assembly of equipment, and driving of sheet piles.
- Drying, disposal profiling and off-hauling of the sediments already dredged from Seaplane Lagoon is continuing through this summer. Dredging of the northwest corner of Seaplane Lagoon will be conducted between September 2011 and March 15, 2012, after the California least terns depart.

IR Site 24 Remedial Design and Remedial Action Work Plan

IR Site 24 is a submerged area at the base of the piers. Sediment in a relatively small portion of IR Site 24 is to be remediated by dredging. The Navy explained the results of its remedial design

investigation, which included sediment sampling to better define the lateral and vertical extent of contaminant levels that exceed the clean-up goals. IR Site 24's sediment contamination is the result of historic discharges from storm drain lines that discharge into San Francisco Bay near the base of Pier 1.

Ferry Point Road at IR Site 24 was built on a wharf that is supported over the water on columns sunk into the Bay bottom. The Navy explained the special hydraulic dredging technology that will be used to remove contaminated sediments from beneath the Ferry Point Road wharf, where limited head room prevents use of the customary dredge bucket. Dredged sediment from IR Site 24 will be dewatered prior to disposal, similar to the dewatering process for dredged Seaplane Lagoon sediments.

Petroleum Program

The DTSC representative gave a brief update on the Alameda Point Petroleum Program to the RAB. As background, environmental cleanup at Alameda Point is conducted through two parallel programs: the Petroleum Program and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Program. (CERCLA specifically excludes petroleum products.) Because the RAB is a CERCLA-mandated organization, normally it does not discuss petroleum clean-up activities. However, at the RAB's request, Mr. Robinson (Navy BEC) agreed to provide a Petroleum Program update to the RAB at least once per year. This year's update likely will occur in October or November.